FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 MAY 1987

Lebanon

Israeli Raid — Israeli warplanes raided Palestinian facilities in the Sidon area used for launching attacks against Israel, Jerusalem radio reported 8 May. Security sources contacted by Beirut radio put the preliminary casualty count at 3 dead and 20 wounded.

Clashes in South — Three Palestinians were killed and two captured when they clashed with Israeli soldiers near Tayr Harfa, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported citing AFP. According to IDF radio, four SLA soldiers were wounded when their patrol clashed with a "terrorist squad" in the northern sector of the security strip.

Hostage Question — Hizballah leader Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah announced that there will be no "breakthrough" in the hostage issue, according to an *Al-Shams* report cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. Fadlallah said that the question has been "suspended" until after the elections in the United States and France.

PLO Affairs

'Arafat on Struggle — Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told Palestinians in Bahrain that arms smuggling into Lebanon will be intensified, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Although 'Arafat reaffirmed that the PLO will not withdraw from Sidon, a "staging point" for operations against Israel, he said that efforts to achieve a political solution will continue.

Delegation Visits PRC — An official delegation headed by Central Committee member Salah Khalaf was honored at a banquet hosted by Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, XINHUA reported, adding that the minister praised PLO efforts toward unity and reiterated China's support for an international conference.

Inter-arab Affairs

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn agreed that priority must be given to ending the Iran-Iraq war, according to an exclusive *Al-Qabas* report cited by KUNA. The paper revealed that at a recent secret meeting attended by Jordanian King Husayn and Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah, Al-Asad promised he would try to influence Iran to accept a negotiated settlement to the war. The paper also disclosed that, by way of encouragement, the Saudis offered to give Syria 50,000 barrels of crude oil per day.

Iran

The U.S.-Soviet effort to "hatch a conspiracy" against Iran is evidence of the superpowers' "disgrace" as well as their "fear" of the Islamic Republic's "significance and power," Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani declared in remarks cited by Tehran radio. In reference to Kuwaiti negotiations to lease tankers from the United States and the Soviet Union, the speaker said that seeking protection under the "flag of colonialism" is a "move of humiliation and shame."

On the subject of bilateral relations, a spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry noted that Iran's "unfriendly campaign," including efforts to "distort" Soviet policy on the war, does not contribute to the "spirit of genuine goodneighbourliness," TASS reported.

Sudan

Mubarak al-Fadil, industry minister and acting information minister, denied that Sudan will take part in the U.S. "Bright Star" maneuvers, SUNA reported. Sudan has no agreements to participate in such joint exercises, the minister declared.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 089 *8 May 1987*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

BANGLADESH

Officials To Meet on Chakma Refugees in India ..... D 1

INDIA

Night Curfew Ordered in Punjab Border District *[AFP]* ..... E 1
Concern Expressed to Barnala ..... E 1
Government 'Seriously Considering' USSR Nuclear Plant *[AFP]* ..... E 1
Minister Tiwari's Visit to U.S. Postponed ..... E 1
Technical, Economic Assistance Offered Burkina Faso ..... E 1

PAKISTAN

France's Raimond Proposes Nuclear Cooperation ..... F 1
Government Urged To Buy AWACS for Air Defense *[JASARAT 30 Apr]* ..... F 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

NEPAL

Trial of June 1985 Bombing Suspects Begins *[KYODO]* ..... G 1
Diplomatic Relations Established With Colombia ..... G 1

SRI LANKA

Navy Reports Weapons Haul; Terrorists Killed ..... G 1
Voice of Tamil Eelam on Rally Against Hospital Closure ..... G 1

IRAN

Khamene'i Addresses Friday Prayers in Tehran ..... I 1
Says Arab Unity 'Plot' ..... I 1
Castigates Superpowers ..... I 1
Majlis Speaker Views U.S., USSR Gulf 'Conspiracy' ..... I 3
Tehran Comments on Implications of Murphy Visit ..... I 3
Protest Against Torture of Prisoners Held in Kuwait ..... I 4
USSR Said To Build Underground Airbases in DRA ..... I 4
'Gulf' Trade Agency on Increased Military Imports *[London AL-DUSTUR 6 Apr]* ..... I 4
Majlis Session Discusses Bill on Armed Forces ..... I 4
JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI Assesses 'Palestinian Question' ..... I 5
Al-Qadhdhafi Demand for Libyan Troop Return Rejected *[MENA]* ..... I 5
Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq ..... I 6
Communique No 2,829 ..... I 6

Officials To Meet on Chakma Refugees in India

BK080412 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali
0100 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] Bangladesh has once again expressed its readiness to take back its tribal Chakma refugees from India. Foreign Secretary Fakhruddin Ahmed told newsmen in Dhaka yesterday that district commissioners of Khagrachari District and India's South Tripura District are expected to meet soon to work out the modalities for the return of Chakma refugees from India.

The foreign secretary, said several hundred Chakmas have already returned to the country. He said tribal nationals are no longer going to India.

Meanwhile, a Foreign Office spokesman has said that the statement of Mr D.T. Rupwate, an All India Congress member and a former Maharashtra minister of state, regarding the launching of a so-called Buddhist movement in support of Chakma miscreants, will vitiate the atmosphere of friendship between Bangladesh and India.

Reacting to Mr Rupwate's statement, which appeared in a section of the Indian press, the spokesman said such irresponsible and provocative statements will only vitiate the atmosphere of good-neighborliness between the two SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] countries as their governments are engaged in arranging an expeditious repatriation of Chakma refugees to Bangladesh.

Night Curfew Ordered in Punjab Border District

BK071400 Hong Kong AFP in English 1341 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] New Delhi, May 7 (AFP) — Punjab authorities enforced a night-time curfew in a district bordering Pakistan Thursday following reports that Sikh militants were planning a major assault, officials said here.

Night curfew was ordered for 20 days in villages in Gurdaspur district following fears that Sikh militants may try to cross over to Pakistan after raiding Hindu localities, a Border Security Force (BSF) spokesman said. Security forces have been asked to intensify patrols in border areas, he said, after the government sounded a maximum security alert.

India often accuses Pakistan of harbouring Sikh militants fighting to set up a separate Sikh nation in the northern state. Pakistan denies this.

Suspected Sikh militants, meanwhile, shot and wounded a man and a woman and robbed a soft drink plant in separate incidents in Punjab Thursday, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) news agency said. Three Sikhs robbed a soft drink plant of 139,000 rupees (11,120 U.S. dollars) in the industrial district of Ludhiana. Sikh gunmen shot and injured a man and a woman in village Bhangali near the state capital Chandigarh. More than 260 people have died this year in Punjab. At least 650 people were killed during 1986.

Concern Expressed to Barnala

BK080314 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] The center has expressed concern over the deteriorating law-and-order situation in the [Punjab] state. In a communication dispatched yesterday, the union home minister, Mr Buta Singh, has asked the Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, to take drastic steps to improve the situation. The All India Radio correspondent understands that in the communication the center has given its assessment of the situation in the state and asked for a reply from Mr Barnala.

Government 'Seriously Considering' USSR Nuclear Plant

BK071620 Hong Kong AFP in English 1024 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] New Delhi, May 7 (AFP) — The Indian Government is seriously considering a Soviet offer to set up a nuclear power plant in India, Minister of State for Science and Technology K.R. Narayanan told Parliament here Thursday.

India had a "high opinion" of Soviet nuclear technology despite the Chernobyl disaster, Mr. Narayanan said in the upper house. But India would consider every offer carefully with regard to safeguards, he added.

The Soviet offer was received recently, the minister said. India is also considering setting up nuclear power plants with help from some other countries, Mr. Narayanan said, but did not name any.

Nuclear officials have previously said that India would buy Soviet atomic power plants if the country falls short of the targeted production of 10,000 megawatts of nuclear power by the year 2,000. According to Indian plans, 10 per cent of all power generated in India by the turn of the century should be from nuclear plants.

The statement by Mr. Narayanan came as Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi declared that India and the Soviet Union were embarking on a "totally new phase of collaboration" following last year's visit by Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"Our state-to-state collaboration with the Soviet Union is very substantial and after the visit of the Secretary-General Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, we are opening a totally new phase of collaboration," Mr. Gandhi told the upper house.

An Indian scientific delegation would visit the Soviet Union soon, Mr. Gandhi said. A high-level Soviet scientific delegation visited India recently.

Mr. Narayanan said Indian nuclear power plans included developing by 1990 the prototype of a 500-megawatt fast breeder reactor to be operational by the turn of the century. India has a fast breeder test reactor at Kalpakkan in southern India modelled on the French plant at Rapsodie. It uses locally-mixed carbide fuel with plutonium and uranium base instead of enriched uranium.

Mr. Narayanan said efforts were under way to revive an agreement with France for collaboration in nuclear research. France supplies enriched uranium for India's main nuclear power plant at Tarapur in western India.

Minister Tiwari's Visit to U.S. Postponed

BK071611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] According to an official press release in New Delhi today, the visit of the external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, to the United States has been postponed to a more appropriate time. Mr Tiwari was to go to the United States on Sunday on a week's visit. The release says the visit has been postponed due to unforeseen reasons.

Technical, Economic Assistance Offered Burkina Faso

BK071638 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] India has offered technical and economic assistance to Burkina Faso, earlier known as Upper Volta. This decision was arrived at when the West African country's minister for transport and communications, Mr Alain Koeffe, met the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Eduardo Faleiro, in New Delhi this morning. Burkina Faso has evinced keen interest in cooperating with India in the field of railway construction work and in the development of small-scale industries, including irrigation pump and technical expertise for canning and bottling of fruit juices. The talks also covered telecommunications.

France's Raimond Proposes Nuclear Cooperation
BK080236 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] France has proposed to Pakistan to seek an out-of-court settlement to the dispute over the decision to suspend supplying the Chashma [nuclear] reprocessing plant in 1978. The proposal was made by French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond, during his talks with Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan in Islamabad yesterday.

Clarifying the proposal at a news conference in Islamabad this afternoon, Raimond said that France will consider every possible form of cooperation with Pakistan in nuclear power generation to meet its energy needs as soon as this dispute is settled, and other European countries can also participate. The French foreign minister said that Pakistani authorities are assessing the French proposal and France is awaiting the Pakistani response.

Replying to a question, he explained that the nuclear power plant that might be constructed in Pakistan as a result of French cooperation will fall within the framework of France's international commitments and International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards. These safeguards will be similar to those applied to French-built nuclear plants in the PRC and ROK.

The French foreign minister said that his country considers Pakistan a reliable, friendly country and wants to strengthen its relations. He said that Pakistan has been playing an important role in ensuring regional stability and in international affairs. He said that during his talks with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, and the foreign minister, views were exchanged primarily on bilateral relations and cooperation, the Afghan situation, and North-South cooperation. He said that during the talks with Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, they identified several projects of mutual interest in the fields of telecommunications, aeronautics, transport, and energy. He said France considers Pakistan's stand on Afghanistan courageous and constructive. The French foreign minister reaffirmed his country's position that the Afghan people's stand against foreign intervention is just and that France is providing moral and diplomatic support to the Afghans by condemning Soviet interference in Afghanistan. He hoped that the new Soviet leadership will find a political settlement of the Afghan issue.

The French foreign minister, Jean-Bernard Raimond, met separately with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Islamabad today. They exchanged views on bilateral relations and expressed the desire to further develop mutual cooperation. They also exchanged views on the Afghan situation and other matters of mutual interest.

During these meetings, the French foreign minister said that President Mitterrand and Prime Minister Chirac highly value Pakistan and appreciate its courageous and principled stand on Afghanistan. He said France commends Pakistan's balanced policy, which constitutes a factor of stability in the region. During his meeting, the prime minister told the French foreign minister that he was highly impressed by his meetings with Fresident Mitterrand and Prime Minister Chirac in July last year.

An agreement has been signed in Islamabad today under which France is to supply 6,000 metric tons of wheat for free distribution among Afghan refugees in Pakistan. The agreement was signed by Federal Finance Minister Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto and French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond on behalf of their respective governments.

Government Urged To Buy AWACS for Air Defense
BK080818 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 30 Apr 87 p 3

[Editorial: "A Dangerous Decision"]

[Text] At a time when Pakistan is beset by danger and is being made the target of criticism from all sides, the Pakistani Government's decision to acquire on lease instead of buying the U.S. AWACS system for the surveillance of its airspace sounds a little strange. A majority of the country's public opinion has urged the Pakistani Government to acquire immediately a system which can guarantee the security of its airspace, even if it has to make a deal with any country other than the United States. But, according to reports, the Pakistani Government has abandoned the idea of buying the AWACS system from the United States and these planes will instead be acquired on lease, and the U.S. soldiers will use Pakistani soil to operate them. The U.S. Government recognizes the need to supply the AWACS system to Pakistan as soon as possible, but it also says that even in the case of immediate delivery of these planes, several months will be required to install them.

Meanwhile, the Indian Government has claimed that the United States is not fully utilizing its influence to keep Pakistan from its alleged nuclear program. In the event of acquisition on lease of the AWACS planes by Pakistan, the Indian Government will certainly set the world on its head, putting our nonalignment in jeopardy. As the U.S. military personnel will operate the AWACS planes in our airspace, it will serve the U.S. interests more than those of Pakistan.

India has once again intensified its propaganda drive on the pretext of Pakistan's hypothetical atomic bomb program. Indian Defense Minister K.C. Pant has said that Pakistan's nuclear weapons development program has forced India to reconsider its nuclear strategy and to reformulate its nuclear weapons development program. He also said India has decided to review its peaceful nuclear policy in view of the emerging threat from Pakistan's nuclear program. He added Pakistan is going headlong in its plan to manufacture the atomic bomb, and the manner in which the United States has ignored Pakistan's efforts to acquire nuclear capability has left India with no option but to take appropriate defensive measures. At the same time, Pant also disclosed that various possibilities are also being considered to meet the threat posed by the proposed supply of AWACS planes to Pakistan. It is a known fact that India will have no difficulty in manufacturing an atomic bomb if it decides to do so. It is already highly advanced in this field and has conducted a nuclear test in 1974 and is now clandestinely engaged in the development of nuclear weapons. The Indian prime minister has already instructed Indian officials to reassess Pakistan's nuclear capability. Addressing the army commanders conference, Rajiv

Gandhi said that Pakistan's nuclear program posed a new threat not only to India but also to world peace.

Under these circumstances, the presence of the U.S. military personnel to operate the AWACS planes on Pakistani soil will create further complications. India will make numerous accusations. It will not only intensify its propaganda machinery but will also accelerate its nuclear weapons program. Under these conditions, Pakistan's idea to abandon the purchase of AWACS planes seems illogical. Besides dependence on the U.S. forces, in spite of our desire to have our own air defense system, it all seems quite incredible. One of the reasons for not buying the AWACS, the Pakistani Government says, is that during the U.S. Congressional debate on the sale of AWACS Pakistan will escape the unavoidable opposition of the U.S. congressmen who think that Pakistan is manufacturing nuclear weapons. India, which is the staunchest opponent of the sale of U.S. AWACS to Pakistan, will also react adversely against the leasing of these planes.

Meanwhile, the continued bombing of the Pakistani border areas by the Soviet-Afghan planes, which has resulted in the deaths of hundreds of people, has completely changed the situation, and the Pakistani Government has been accused of being unable to protect the life and property of the people. These accusations are diminishing the popularity of the government. In this situation, what is required of the Pakistani Government is to work with determination and courage and to acquire the defense system for its airspace, totally ignoring the risk of U.S. congressional opposition. And if the United States is shirking from meeting Pakistan's requirements, it must be warned that this kind of strategy will not only create problems for Pakistan but will also jeopardize the security of the entire free world. The Afghanistan issue will remain stalemated, and this will provide the Soviet Union with full opportunity to do as it wishes in Afghanistan. It must be emphasized to the United States that its aid will help preserve the security of Pakistan and of the entire free world, and that it must not let India take advantage of an opportunity to succeed in its abominable propaganda and in the fulfillment of its ambition to harm Pakistan. We hope that the U.S. Administration will forthwith supply the AWACS system to Pakistan for the defense of its airspace so that it can protect its western border.

NEPAL

Trial of June 1985 Bombing Suspects Begins

OW071139 Tokyo KYODO in English 1115 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Kathmandu, May 7 *Kyodo* — The trial has begun of 102 persons accused in subversive acts committed in Nepal in June 1985. Hearings on five cases of subversion were completed Wednesday by the tribunal on subversive crimes of Judge Riddhimananda Bajracharya, official news agency RSS said.

The "subversive crimes" carried out in various places of the Kingdom had culminated in bomb blasts in Kathmandu in the third week of June, it said. The blasts that took place at the entrance of the National Assembly building, a five-star tourist hotel and one of the outer gates of the royal palace, had killed five persons, including one National Assembly member.

The trial which started last Monday is expected expected to last a few weeks. Altogether 14 cases of subversive acts have been registered with the tribunal.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Colombia

BK071628 Kathmandu External Service in English 1415 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] His majesty's Government of Nepal and the Government of the Republic of Colombia have decided to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level.

According to a press release published today by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the decision was taken by the governments of the two countries being desirous of promoting the spirit of mutual understanding and of developing bonds of friendship and cooperation between the people of the two countries. The number of countries with which Nepal has (?diplomatic relations) has now reached 98. Colombia is the 10th Latin American country to establishing diplomatic relations with Nepal.

SRI LANKA

Navy Reports Weapons Haul; Terrorists Killed

BK080859 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0820 GMT 8 May 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, May 08 *(Lanka Puwath)* — The Sri Lanka Navy has captured a large consignment of modern weapons being ferried by separatist terrorists across the Palk Straits from south India to northern Sri Lanka. The captured arms include large calibre machine guns, submachine guns, mortar shells and grenades in addition to radio communication sets and detonators. The consignment of arms and other logistics had been loaded to the large motorised boat at the south Indian fishing port of Vedaranyam.

The Media Centre in Colombo told *Lanka Puwath* that the Sri Lanka Navy tracked down and captured a large boat which according to its occupants came from Vedaranyam in south India. A large quantity of the most modern weapons were found concealed in the boat hidden under polythene sheets and tarpaulin covers.

This haul of weapons included machine guns of the biggest possible type, submachine guns, mortar shells, grenades, radio communication sets and detonators. These arms were meant for the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam]. Further details will be known after interrogation of those captured terrorists.

Meanwhile, at Thona Junction, Trincomalee district, eastern Sri Lanka Wednesday, security forces in a confrontation with a gang of LTTE terrorists killed one of them.

A report from Akkaraipattu in the Batticaloa district states that an LTTE leader known as Chitravel alias Abhok was shot dead by government troops on patrol yesterday. A number of hand grenades were recovered from him.

In Kallady, also in the Batticaloa district, separatist terrorists had hijacked an ice cream cart on 30/4/87. This cart was found kept parked near the Batticaloa bridge. When the special task force (STP) patrol approached the ice cream cart the terrorists exploded the cart injuring one constable. The STF patrol fired at the terrorists killing one of them. The public, especially school children all over the island, are warned not to approach unattended ice cream or other carts, vans or other parked vehicles.

A report from Jaffna, northern Sri Lanka states that sporadic mortar firing by terrorists at the Jaffna Fort camp and other camps continued throughout yesterday.

Voice of Tamil Eelam on Rally Against Hospital Closure

BK071325 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1330 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] A protest rally was taken out in Jaffna yesterday against the order of the Sri Lankan Ministry for Teaching Hospitals [as heard] to close down the Jaffna General Hospital by 8 May. Doctors, nurses, and other employees took part in this protest rally which extended from the hospital compound to the government secretariat in Jaffna. A memorandum was submitted to the government (?secretary), (L. Sakthilingam).

Meanwhile, the private bus operators also canceled their services in protest of the Sri Lankan Government decision. The Jaffna Public Welfare Association has sent an urgent appeal to the Indian Government to urge [the Sri Lankan Government] to give up the action taken to close down the general hospital which is the center of about 20 lakh people from the Northern Province and Jaffna. It was pointed out to the Indian Government that closing down the hospital is an inhuman act and thousands of people may die as a result. The Jaffna General Hospital Patients Welfare Association has appealed to all to join in the just struggle until the action to close down the Jaffna hospital is withdrawn.

Khamene'i Addresses Friday Prayers in Tehran

Says Arab Unity 'Plot'

LD081217 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] On the second Friday of the holy month of Ramadan, the fasting ummah of Iran attended Friday prayers venues all over the country, thus observing this Muslim ritual. The god-seeking people of Tehran, too, held religious-political Friday prayers ceremonies in the University of Tehran and its surrounding streets under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam Val-muslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i.

In his prayer sermons, the Friday imam of Tehran referred to the approaching International Jerusalem Day and the raising of the Palestinian issue in a new form among the Arab governments. He said: The talk of unity among the Arab governments on the Palestian issue is a new concept for them. This talk would be acceptable only if it meant unity in the struggle against the regime occupying Jerusalem. The Islamic Republic of Iran endorses this view and is prepared to offer any help and cooperation. However, if the unity of the Arab governments intends to drag the other governments who still chant the slogan of struggle against Israel into compromise, this would mean utter shame for the Arab world and would deliver the heaviest of blows to the Arab world and to Islam. In our opinion, those involved in hatching this plot intend to impose the existence of the Israeli occupying regime upon the Arab governments under the banner of the unity and solidarity of the Arab governments. They intend to unite the few progressive states which are chanting the slogan of struggle against Israel with King Husayn, King Hassan, and Husni Mubarak. If that happened, one could bury all hope for the aspirations of the oppressed people of Palestine. And in fact, if the unity of Arab governments were to be realized for this purpose, the Muslim nations would be left with a heavy burden of duty to shoulder.

In this connection, the president emphasized: The Islamic Republic of Iran is saying that the land of Palestine belongs to the nation of Palestine, be it Muslim, Christian, or Jewish. And it is up to the owners of Palestine to decide the destiny of this land. The regime which has been established in Palestine by the aliens — and the aggressive aliens themselves — should packup and go as soon as possible. But this cannot be achieved by slogans. Rather, the Islamic governments, and particularly the Arab governments, which are nearer to that land, should take action and fight against the usurping regime of Israel. And the Arab and Muslim nations should realize that the fate of the world of Islam and a return to past glory and honor depend on this issue to a great extent. If the Muslim nations succeed in solving the problem of Palestine, they will regain their former glory and grandeur.

Referring to the marches on International Jerusalem Day, the Friday imam of Tehran said: The Muslim nations should realize that the best tribute for them to express their anger against the regime occupying Jerusalem like a cancerous tumor is the International Jerusalem Day. On that they should show the world that the aspiration for Jerusalem is a real aspiration of the Muslims.

Continuing his sermon, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council referred to the comings and goings of the envoys of the big powers to the region and their talk about the imposed war. He said: After 7 years of war they have understood that arms and military aid to the Iraqi regime will not solve the problem. That is, arms are not the main factor determining the fate of the war. On the other hand, just like us, they have felt that the Iraqi regime is now facing absolute exhaustion and despondency. Never before have the Iraqi Armed Forces been so helpless and so exhausted, with low morale. Naturally, this fatigue has affected Iraq's internal situation, too. The major powers have therefore, found no other alternative than to prevent the Islamic Republic and the nation of Iran from delivering further blows to the hireling regime in Iraq, as a way of ending the war. They therefore began their diplomatic shuttle and talks with the governments in the region, hoping to force the Islamic Republic to retreat from its stance through political pressure.

While explaining the various forms of assistance given by the USSR to the Iraqi Zionist regime, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i said: Despite their claim to the contrary, the Russians are today demonstrating clearly and openly that they are not neutral in the Iran-Iraq war and are adopting a stance through their aid for the enemy of the nation of Iran. The Soviet statesmen should realize that this stance is not acceptable to the nation of Iran and will never be wiped out of the memory of the Iranian nation. And we, the responsible officials of the Islamic Republic, who, in accordance with Islam's instructions, are generous in our foreign policy, shall not tolerate any bullying from any superpower and we shall make the bully swallow his own words. Our nation has demonstrated that it is a resistant and mighty nation and it will not surrender to such threats.

In conclusion, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council stressed: The recent sensations have, therefore, no effect in ending the imposed war. And in accordance with what the leader and all the officials and the nation of Iran have said, I declare: Our last word is that this war will continue categorically until the downfall of the Iraqi 'Aflaqite regime.

Castigates Superpowers

LD081347 Tehran IRNA in English 1340 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 8, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i today criticized the Soviet Union for its recent stands towards the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Iraqi imposed war.

The president explicitly told the Soviet leaders that "these stands of yours are not acceptable to our people and will not be wiped out from their memory."

Addressing a huge crowd of Muslim worshippers at Friday prayers ceremony here, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i reiterated that Iran has taken its firm and unchangeable decision regarding the war.

"Today, on behalf of the Iranian nation and the great leader of the revolution, I declare to the Soviet leaders and regional governments that this war will certainly continue until the Ba'thist-Aflaqi regime (of Iraq) is toppled."

Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i who is also leader of Tehran's Friday prayers, also said in his second sermon of prayers, that the two superpowers had now obviously coordinated their stands towards the Islamic Republic and the Iraq-Iran war.

Despite their claims of impartiality in the war, he said, the two superpowers have now realized that they were unable to save the Iraqi regime only through military and economic assistance.

He added the instability of the Baghdad regime alone was a good reason for the superpowers to try to maintain their interests in the region.

On the recent propaganda uproar of the superpowers, President Khamene'i said all these diplomatic shuttles, talks and remarks either by the superpowers or on behalf of them, as well as their threats and efforts to convene a Security Council meet for a decision against Iran, all aimed at forcing, through international and political pressures, the Islamic Republic to retreat.

Nevertheless, he emphasized, many hands were exposed in these events. The Soviets for instance, he said, claimed to be neutral in the war and had announced this many times in their talks with and messages to Iranian officials, and justified their arms supply to Iraq within the framework of their past agreements.

However, President Khamene'i said, today the Russians are openly displaying their partiality in the region and explicitly support Iran's enemy.

On the Muslim nation of Iran's decisive stand in countering the United States, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i said the Iranian people's disgust at the U.S. was because of the American Government's ugly record in Iran.

For long years, he said, the people in Iran had to suffer from the blows inflicted on them by a U.S.-installed regime and "we have not forgotten these things."

He said today the slogan 'Death to America' is the most common slogan of the nation and the revolution. This, he said, shows that the Iranians will never forget anything and that they will not be deceived with one word.

Regarding the Soviets however, he said, "Our nation did not treat the Russians and the Soviet Government like that (like the Americans)" because, he added, the people's hatred is not the same towards everyone.

Hoj. Khamene'i said any government trying to counter the Iranian people and public opinion would for ever lose its ground in the country. "You should not offend our nation," Khamene'i implied to the Soviets.

On behalf of the Iranian officials, Khamene'i assured world states and the superpowers that the Islamic Republic, relying on Islamic principles, has an open hand in its foreign policy. "There is no restriction within the principles of our foreign policy and we declare that we will not accept any bullying and any superpower gestures from anyone."

In conclusion, he said Iran is a free and independent nation "which has so far shown its power and strength."

Elsewhere in his second sermon, President Khamene'i turned to the issue of Palestine and said the superpowers, by creating a unity of expression among the Arab states in the region, were in fact following common objectives.

He said it was good and acceptable to see Arab unity if it really aimed at attaining the rights of the Palestinians. "But we feel that this coordination and unity is aimed at treachery against the Palestinain cause and Arab-Islamic ideals in the region," he pointed out.

By gathering the Arab governments together, he said, they want to lay the foundation to legitimise the Zionist regime as well as relations with it.

President Khamene'i said two trends existed around the Palestinian issue today: one is to counter the enemy face to face, and the second is to compromise with Israel.

Progressive countries like Syria, Libya and others are in the wing of struggle against Israel, he said, adding that on the other side there are a number of reactionary regimes such as the kings of Morocco and Jordan, who, he said, were trying to deviate the struggle.

Pointing to Yasir 'Arafat's humiliating remarks on direct talks with "any" Israeli leaders to bring about unity and form a large and democratic state with Israel, President Khamene'i said these remarks "reveal the wide dimensions of this conspiracy and places a great responsibility on the shoulder of the Muslim and Arab nations to thwart these plots."

Hoj. Khamene'i said Iran's stands vis-a-vis the Palestinian issue was very clear. "We believe Palestine belongs to its people from all religions with the Muslims holding the majority, and that it is the owners of Palestine who should decide its fate."

The leader of Tehran's Friday prayers also said the U.S. was plotting to put the leaders of Syria and Libya and other progressive countries in the same rank as such reactionary kings as Hassan (of Morocco) and Husayn (of Jordan). "It is a plot which should be firmly countered," he cautioned.

On the upcoming Qods [Jerusalem] Day (the last day of the holy month of Ramadhan), the president said Arab and Muslim nations should prove to the world that they are really after liberation of Qods (Jerusalem).

"The day of Qods is the day of sacred and Islamic ideals and causes of this ummah and the Muslim nations wherever they are, should display their firm determination in retaking the occupied lands."

Majlis Speaker Views U.S., USSR Gulf 'Conspiracy'

LD071758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 7 May 87

[Excerpt] During a speech made this evening, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Majlis speaker, referring to the joint efforts of the superpowers to hatch a conspiracy against the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Persian Gulf, stressed: The collusion between the United States and the USSR over the Persian Gulf is a conspiracy against Iran — despite so much hostility and discord between them — and shows the significance and power of the Islamic Republic. This is something of which the people of Iran should be proud.

According to a Central News Unit Report, the Majlis speaker, addressing a group of teachers from the literacy movements, another group of teachers from Tehran's 20 districts, as well as students and staff of teacher training centers, and the headquarters in charge of organizing the ceremonies in honor of teachers, referred to the move by the superpowers to allow the use of their flags for the movement of warships off Iran's shores. He said: This move, in addition to demonstrating the disgrace of the superpowers, is also a move of humiliation and shame for the leaders of those countries intending to safeguard their countries by using the protection of the flag of colonialism.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: This move of the superpowers is indicative of the fact that our enemies have not stopped bothering us, and the more the revolution moves forward to reach the desired stages, the more they must conspire against us -- ever more disgracefully and blatantly. This latest move, and the use of the superpowers' flags to allow passage of ships off Iran's shores is a flagrant intervention and disgrace.

Referring to the fear of the superpowers and the reactionary states of the region in the face of the Islamic revolution, the Majlis speaker said: The close cooperation between the reactionary countries and their repeated meetings and councils, organized for the sake of uniting them against Iran, is another sign of the might of the revolution. This might and greatness have been gained under the flag of Islam. The fear of Islam is what exerts pressure upon global arrogance. [passage omitted]

Tehran Comments on Implications of Murphy Visit

NC071240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0345 GMT 7 May 87

[Commentary by the Central News Unit Research Group]

[Text] It is being said that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy will leave for the Persian Gulf region soon and is expected to visit the six GCC member-states as well as Iraq. This trip, coming within a week of the conclusion of a visit by a Soviet Foreign Ministry official to the same countries, indicates the superpowers are attaching great importance to what is described as the safety of shipping in the Persian Gulf.

In any case, it should be borne in mind that this is the first visit by Richard Murphy to the region following the exposure of U.S. attempts to re-establish relations with Iran. This effort caused considerable consternation among the GCC leaders for quite some time. Murphy is now seeking to obtain their attention and confidence in the policy of his government and to explain the Reagan government's reasons for adopting such a policy.

However, in the 3 years since ties between Iraq and the United States were resumed, this is the third time that Murphy has headed for Baghdad. The United States has officially announced it is neutral as regards the Iran-Iraq war. Washington echelons have, however, admitted that extensive information obtained from satellites about Iranian troop movements has been placed at the disposal of the Iraqi forces. It is being said that the U.S. AWACS in Saudi Arabia played a major role in gathering this intelligence.

The present situation in the Iran-Iraq war and developments in the past 1½ years, which culminated in the major defeat of the Ba'thist Iraqi regime, have brought about a new state of affairs and generated a new reaction on the part of the superpowers. The correct reaction would have be the declaration, once again, of a policy of strict neutrality. It is also possible they might have rallied to the side of the defeated party, that is, Iraq. In any case, what is certain is that the superpowers face a fresh situation which will result in a change in their policies, as it did in the past.

The shuttle diplomacy of Soviet Foreign Ministry and U.S. State Department officials is confirmation of the above. The Soviet Union has reached an agreement with the Kuwaiti Government on the lease of three Soviet oil tankers for a period of 3 years. It is reported the United States and Kuwait are negotiating the registration of 11 Kuwaiti oil tankers with U.S. companies. The aim of these attempts is ostensibly to ensure security by means of naval escorts for Kuwaiti tankers, but it can be more generally interpreted as the latest reaction of the superpowers to the war. Against this background, the dispatch of Soviet-made weapons to Iraq has been stepped up, according to press agencies, and Moscow officials have announced their categorical support for the Iraqi regime by asking Iran to forget who initiated the war. The U.S. Government, in addition to supplying Iraq with satellite information, military advisers, and economic assistance, is trying to find a new way of ending the war, this time together with the Soviet Union, through the Security Council. It is being said consultations have begun in this regard among the representatives of the five permanent UN member-states, under the supervision of Perez de Cuellar. They are still, however, in the preliminary stage, the French and British differences of opinion having been instrumental in keeping them secret.

U.S. officials have not been content with these maneuvers. Some U.S. State Department officials have suggested that if the atmosphere is conducive, Richard Murphy might incorporate in his agenda efforts to bring about a rapprochement between Iraq and Syria. In any case, most of these reports indicate that the superpowers are trying — whether out of sheer rivalry, or for the purpose of coordination — to seek new avenues for resolving the present state of affairs. Their object is to exert greater pressure on Islamic Iran or the Islamic combatants at the battlefronts. This new policy is still shrouded in layers of ambiguity. The facts have not been revealed, as it is not known whether this new policy will prove effective. Nonetheless, it is worth analyzing from two points of view. First, in the short term it is possible to suppose

that more military assistance to the Iraqi regime or an increased presence of the superpowers in the Persian Gulf could create some restrictions on the Islamic combatants. In the long term, however, our officials and military commanders are capable, as they have already proved, of resisting various situations which the superpowers have from time to time imposed on the Islamic revolution, either by rendering them ineffective or by mitigating their effects. The consistent efforts of the superpowers in the past few years have not been able to deter the Islamic combatants from continuing their operations against the Saddamist forces.

Protest Against Torture of Prisoners Held in Kuwait

LD071836 Tehran IRNA in English 1802 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — Relatives of Kuwaiti Muslim strugglers, imprisoned on alleged charges of bombing the shaykhdom's oil installations, gathered in front of the Kuwaiti Justice Ministry Wednesday to protest the inhuman situation of the prisoners.

The protesters also met with the head of Kuwaiti security tribunal who had chaired the kangaroo court which tried the prisoners over the past two months, urging him to take necessary measures to stop the torture of the prisoners.

The twelve Kuwaiti Muslims locked up on alleged charges of planting bombs at the oil installations of this Persian Gulf shaykhdom, are banned from meeting their families.

During the few open sessions of the two month-long trial, reporters and the audience saw visible marks of torture on the bodies of the prisoners, some of whom have even been crippled because of the torture.

Meanwhile, the jailed strugglers continued their hunger strike, as a result of which the condition of two of them, Hassan Hajiya and Seyyed Hassan Fatemi, is reportedly critical. Another hunger striker, Javad al-Attar, has been transferred to a hospital because of what the security forces called a heart attack.

The prisoners are also prohibited from reading the holy Koran or performing congregational prayers in the jail.

USSR Said To Build Underground Airbases in DRA

LD071934 Tehran IRNA in English 1850 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Islamabad, May 7, IRNA — The Soviet Union has recently constructed underground air bases at Herat and Qandahar airports in Afghanistan to protect its jet fighters from the missile attacks of Afghan Mujahidin, reported Afghan press agency here Wednesday.

The report said that Afghan Mujahidin in addition to downing a Soviet-made MiG fighter, destroyed two others on the runway of Qandahar airport on April 22.

Projects to build underground bases at Bagram and Shindand airports have also been completed, the report said.

In another development, 81 Afghan Muslim people were martyred and 120 others wounded when 16 Soviet fighters bombed residential areas of Ghurian and Bornaabad [name as received] in Herat Province western Afghanistan on May 5.

The raid, said to be one of the fiercest attacks of its kind, was carried shortly after the successful Mujahidin attacks on the newly built headquarters of Soviet occupiers.

'Gulf' Trade Agency on Increased Military Imports

WA071711 London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 6 Apr 87 p 3

[Text] Import figures in the table of trade exchange between Iran and one of the "Gulf" [quotation marks as published] agencies known for its firm relations with Tehran indicate that Iranian imports through this agency last year reached 211 million dollars [amount as published]. The volume of military imports which Iran bought directly from some of the foreign firms belonging to this same agency increased by a factor of 50 percent from what it was in 1985, This is in view of the fact that the average of Iranian imports from this agency in the last 3 months shows that the volume has increased daily.

Majlis Session Discusses Bill on Armed Forces

LD071228 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Our correspondent has sent us the following report about today's open session of the Majlis:

In today's open session of the Majlis the bill on the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran received its second reading. After six articles of the bill were approved, further discussion of the rest of its contents was left for the next open session.

According to the articles approved in today's open session the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran comprise the regular armed services [artesh], the Revolution Guards Corps, the Security Forces, the Gendarmerie, the police, and the Islamic revolution committees which function under the command of the commander in chief and leader [Khomeyni].

The regular armed services of the Islamic Republic of Iran refers to the Joint Staff, the Ground Forces, the Air Force, the Navy, and their affiliated organizations. The Defense Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran is part of the government and has the responsibility of supporting the armed forces.

According to another article, the military goals of the Islamic Republic of Iran are: Safeguarding the independence and territorial integrity of the Islamic Republic of Iran; safeguarding the national interests of the Islamic Republic of Iran outside its national territory in the Caspian Sea, the Persian Gulf, the Sea of Oman, and on rivers and land routes; also, providing support for Muslim or oppressed nations in defending territories that are threatened or under the occupation of aggressive forces, if those nations make such a request.

Another approved article on the principles and special features

of the armed forces says: In the formation and equipping of the armed forces, the basis and the yardstick is the Islamic ideology. The armed forces have the ideological mission of jihad on the path of God and regard it as their duty to follow the principles of Islamic morality and respect for the human dignity of individuals. The armed forces are under the command of the commander in chief, and the principle of the unity of command governs all its ranks.

The personnel of the armed forces follow the political line of the leader and their membership in and affiliation with political organizations are strictly forbidden. Also, the armed forces will always perform their duties on behalf of the people and in the interests and aspirations of the Islamic ummah and by making use of all their capabilities, they will try to achieve self-sufficiency in all fields. The armed forces should, through the creation of spiritual [ma'navi] discipline based upon the faith and the belief of their personnel and by means of the formulation of logical and just regulations and through the institution of systems of reward and punishment, provide the means for the complete implementation of orders and regulations.

The principle of simplicity in all fields should be observed in the armed forces, and unnecessary organizations and irrelevant formalities should be eliminated and methods of uniformity should be applied. The armed forces should enjoy such readiness, mobility, and strength that they can, by making use of all the capabilities of the Islamic Republic, deprive the open or hidden enemies of any aggression. By making use of all their capabilities they should defend the country against any aggression and suppress and punish the aggressor; and, while believing in the principle of nonaggression, they should assist Muslim or oppressed nations to defend themselves.

In today's open session of the Majlis the draft bill on the financial resources for implementing the law defining provinces and districts was also discussed in its first reading and some general principles regarding it were approved.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI Assesses 'Palestinian Question'

LD071621 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1200 GMT 7 May 87

[From the "Press Review"]

[Text] The Middle East this week witnessed some important developments concerning the Palestinian question. On the one hand, 'Arafat officially and openly expressed his heartfelt inclinations toward peace with Israel, and negotiations with the enemy under the supervision of the United Nations; and on the other hand, the Jordanian king declared his readiness officially to make peace with Israel. This is at a time when Washington and Tel Aviv have welcomed, albeit very cautiously, an old proposal by Moscow, and are studying the grounds necessary for convening an international conference on peace in the Middle East. The newspaper *Jomhuri-ye Eslami*, concluding its political analysis, discussed the recent Middle East developments:

'Arafat and the Jordanian king feel that they do not have many opportunities to compromise with the enemy, so that the outcome of their criminal deed must be finalized before Islamic movements in the Middle East manifest their power. Meanwhile, the Zionist enemy is hoping to achieve peace with the scatterred factions of Arab compromisers, each in turn, imposing on them its own conditions and the maximum price possible.

The Tel Aviv regime gave a cool response to 'Arafat's proposal and, ignoring him, declared that 'Arafat has remained 8 years behind developments of the region and has still not understood the spirit of the Camp David pact. At the same time, the Zionists, by disclosing secrets related to their exchanges and dealings with the Jordanian king, are trying to place him under even greater pressure in order to place him in a submissive position. From Israel's standpoint, the question of achieving peace with the Jordanian king is vital, and it is necessary for King Husayn, at a practical level, to feel that it is Amman's regime that needs to make peace with Israel and not the other way round. Meanwhile, Syria, as the only country standing steadfast on the front line of the struggle movement against the Zionist enemy has warned the compromisers that, from Syria's point of view, any country intending to make peace with Israel will be termed a betrayer of the Palestinian cause and will be dealt with as such. Syria's dignified and strong stance is being expounded under circumstances where, by declaring its stance officially vis-a-vis 'Arafat's compromising faction, Damascus has stated it holds no personal grudges against 'Arafat, and is ready to put an end to the deteriorating relations with Syria providing 'Arafat officially nullifies all relations with Egypt and condemns the Camp David pact. By saying this, Syria is clearly showing its goodwill and progressive view of the situation.

By adopting this stance, Syria wishes to prove to nations and governments that it assesses its friendship or enmity with 'Arafat or with any individual or regime, within the framework of its principles and the Palestinian cause. It is the Palestinian cause that has given an identity to 'Arafat and his like, and the real yardstick by which we can measure progressive nations and governments is the Palestinian cause, and not the ever-changing policies of the 'Arafat faction. Those who in declaring an armed struggle policy for the liberation of Jerusalem and occupied Palestine have achieved something, have now destroyed the aspirations of Palestine, and they want to sacrifice this cause for their own survival and a welcome by the Zionists.

Obviously, such a policy of betrayal will not remained unanswered. Syria's response is clear, but we must see what the response of the region's nations toward the compromisers -- who cannot wait to make peace with the enemy -- will be. Events in Egypt showed that nations will not deliver to such humiliated leaders anything other than lead medals of the type Khalid al-Islambuli penetrated into Al-Sadat's chest — a medal which primarily displayed the revolutionary anger of the suffering nations of the region, and smooths the way for those nations to realize the aspirations of Palestine.

Al-Qadhdhafi Demand for Libyan Troop Return Rejected

NC071521 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 May (MENA) — The Iranian Government has rejected Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's demand to allow the

Libyan military personnel currently in Iran to return to Libya.

This was stated by a responsible source in the National Front for the Salvation of Libya. He said Iran has refused to allow the Libyans to return because they are at the battlefronts and possess military secrets, and hence are considered detainees in Iran. The source added that Al-Qadhdhafi had dispatched units from antiaircraft missile batteries to Iran, as well as long-range missile batteries used in striking Baghdad.

Meanwhile, another source in the National Front for the Salvation of Libya has stated that the Libyan Army's losses in Chad have caused resentment against Al-Qadhdhafi and his regime among all Libyans, particularly in the Army ranks. This has compelled Al-Qadhdhafi to remove important Army commanders and personnel and to move large Army units to the Ouzo region.

Citing the Front's sources in Libya, the source added that Al-Qadhdhafi has recently transferred over 2,000 officers and soldiers whom he believed represented a danger to his regime to Uganda.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,829

LD071534 Tehran IRNA in English 1520 GMT 7 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — Iraqi warplanes bombed 'Gandoman' village around Baneh in Kurdestan Province at 06:00 GMT Wednesday, inflicting some casualties and losses on villagers, said a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Thursday.

The communique number 2829 said that Iranian Navy gunboats, intercepted and searched seven oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz. The tankers were later allowed to continue voyage since they had no suspicious cargo on board. The Navy also effectively controled enemy activities around the Al-Bakr and Al-Amayah oil platforms in the northwestern tip of the Persian Gulf.

Muslim Forces of Iran continued fortifying their positions and opened heavy artillery fire on Iraqi fortifications and supply routes throughout the fronts Wednesday, inflicting substantial losses in men and equipment on emey troops on all fronts.

Iranian artillery fire pounded several Iraqi motorized columns and an armoured unit in Nahr 'Anbar, southern fronts yesterday, destroying two enemy tanks and several vehicles. Elsewhere, in the southern fronts, Iranian patrol convoys carried out some successful intelligence-gathering missions.

A number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and at least 10 enemy gun emplacements demolished in parts of the southern and western fronts Wednesday when shelled by Iranian Gendarmerie forces.

In the northwestern fronts Wednesday, Iranian Muslim combatants inflicted heavy casualties on Iraqi soldiers, destroying parts of enemy positions and repelling enemy helicopters. The enemy munitions dump was also set ablaze in Hajj 'Umran.

In Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts, Iranian patrol units killed several Iraqi soldiers and destroyed more than 10 enemy gun emplacements, one munitions dump and two vehicles Wednesday.

Movements of Iraqi motorized columns were checked in Qasr-e Shirin and Ilam yesterday, concluded the communique.